

CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A meeting of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday January 11, 2023 at 6:07p at the Cranston Central Library.

Present were:

Jack Tregar

Regina Spirito

Michael Goldberg

R. Drayton Fair

Diane Schaefer

Julie Holden, Assistant Library Director

Allyson Quintanilla, Administrative Assistant

Absent: *Taino Palermo, Larry Warner, Ed Garcia, Library Director*

INTRODUCTION:

Jack Tregar announced that Taino Palermo is resigning from the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees.

MINUTES: 6:10p

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 8, 2022. R. Drayton Fair seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION REPORT: 6:11p

Administrative Updates

-This winter, there have been a number of patrons wanting to use the comfortable “easy chairs” at the Arlington branch so we decided to institute a time limit (2 hours). We recently had 2 gentlemen who would sit in the chairs the entire day, from 10 am - 4:30 pm, thus preventing anyone else from using the space. After consulting with the city solicitor, we determined it was reasonable to limit chair use the same as we limit computer use, so that we serve the maximum number of patrons equitably. The use of chairs at other locations has not been a problem.

-Julie has created a “training committee” consisting of both Central and branch staff, as we are moving to a new ILS system in May (through Ocean State Libraries) and we wanted to have a more sophisticated and comprehensive onboarding process for new staff members. This will include training on customer service and library philosophy, in addition to the technical aspects

of the job.

Buildings and Grounds

-A Tree limb on the grounds of the William Hall Library fell due to heavy winds and caused some damage to the roof of the shed. The Hall Trustees were made aware and are responsible for any repairs. More tree limbs fell towards the back of the property, but did not damage anything.

Programming

-OLIS selected the Cranston Public Library as one of five libraries in the state that will participate in the IMLS-funded initiative, Building Equity Based Summers Through Libraries & Communities. The initiative will create a set of tools and resources for library staff to make access to summer programs more equitable and community-centered. A team of three staff members from Cranston Public Library will focus on outreach to census tract 147, an area in the North Central part of Cranston where fewer than 25% of young people have Cranston Public Library cards. By participating in monthly discussions and testing out tools, these staff members will try to make the library's summer programming more accessible and appealing to people who live in this census tract.

-This month the library is exhibiting local Cranston painter Ivan Marte, originally from the Dominican Republic, who paints scenery but also about social issues. His reception is on Wednesday Jan. 11 at 6 pm.

Staff Updates

-In his role as Rhode Island Chapter Councilor, Director Garcia will be attending the American Library Association LibLearnX conference for governance meetings from January 26-30. The Rhode Island Library Association will be covering all expenses related to this conference.

-We have filled the part-time reference librarian position at William Hall to Zaidee Everett, a URI GSLIS student who is interested in working in public libraries.

Cranston Public Library Association Updates

-The Cranston Public Library Association Board of Directors held their annual meeting on January 4, 2023. At the meeting annual elections were held. Michael Goldberg and Angela Bucci were reelected to new terms as Directors. The elected officers are: Michael Goldberg, President, Jessica David, Treasurer, and Lisa Kirshenbaum as Secretary.

BUDGET REPORT: 6:20p

The budget report was distributed reflecting July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: 6:31p

Rhode Island Pay Equity Act:

Both full and part time Library Staff are class-based. We do not need to make any changes to our rates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Revision to Meeting Room Policy: 6:33p

An item was added stating that organizations with a valid 501(c)(3) number can hold meetings open only to their own board and staff, pending confirmation of their 501(c)(3) status.

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the revised Meeting Room Policy. Regina Spirito seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

Gender Neutral Language Policy Review: 6:35p

A motion was made by Regina Spirito to approve the revised policy language. R. Drayton Fair seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: 6:40p

Michael Goldberg moved to re-elect Jack Tregar as president for 1 year, and Regina Spirito as Vice President for 1 year. R. Drayton Fair seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

R. Drayton Fair moved to re-elect Michael Goldberg as liaison to the CPLA. Regina Spirito seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

Diane Schaefer volunteered for the Finance Committee.

Regina Spirito and R. Drayton Fair volunteered for the Personnel Committee.

Approve the 2022 Annual Report: 6:55p

A motion was made by Michael Goldberg to approve the 2022 Annual Report. Diane Schaefer seconded. Motion carried (4-0).

ADJOURNMENT: 7:02p

A motion was made by Regina Spirito to adjourn the meeting. R. Drayton Fair seconded the motion. Motion carried (4-0).